

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

With this response, claims 1-3, 5-11, and 14 are pending. Claims 4, 12-13, and 15-30 are cancelled without prejudice to subsequence revival. In response to the present restriction requirement, Applicants elect to prosecute Group 3 (claims 1-14), drawn to a method of refolding a eukaryotic ST3GalIII protein.

According to the Office Action the invention of Groups 1-21 do not relate to a single inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, the claims lack the same or corresponding special technical features for allegedly failing to make a contribution over the prior art. The Office Action alleges that the special technical feature is a maltose binding domain fused to the recited glycosyltransferase proteins.

Applicants traverse restriction of the claims. In particular, groups 1-7 are all directed to methods of refolding eukaryotic glycosyltransferases in bacteria. The Office Action does not include reasoning for restriction of these claim groups. Therefore, all the claims are amended to recite the elected ST3GalIII protein, Applicants maintain their right to rejoinder of other Groups directed to methods of refolding eukaryotic glycosyltransferases in bacteria.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,

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